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Sen. Allen welcomes Petoskey priest to deliver Senate invocation

LANSING — The Michigan Senate started session Tuesday with a prayer from a Petoskey clergyman at the request of Sen. Jason Allen, R-Traverse City.

The Rev. Dennis Stilwell of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Petoskey led the session in prayer during the daily invocation.

“I thought it was a tremendous opportunity to lead the invocation before such a body,” Stilwell said. “It was definitely an honor to do so.”

Allen said he enjoys inviting local religious leaders to give the invocation.

“Bringing northern Michigan leaders like Father Stilwell to Lansing was a treat for all of us that know him. His heartfelt words gave us cause to be thoughtful in our purpose as we worked for the betterment of our state,” Allen said.

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EDITOR’S NOTE: A photo is available at senate.michigan.gov/gop/photowire/